

SPECIFICATION COMPARISON

GCE AS and A2 Level ICT

For first teaching from September 2008

Teaching resources available from

www.gceict.co.uk

Free trial

		AQA	
		Unit 1 (INFO1): Practical Problem Solving in the Digital World	Unit 2 (INFO2): Living in the Digital World
AS Units	Content	<p>Health & safety in relation to the use of ICT systems. Analysis. Design of solutions. Selection and use of input devices & input media. Selection and use of storage requirements, media and devices. Selection and use of output methods, media & devices. Selection and use of appropriate software. Implementation of ICT related solutions. Testing of ICT related solutions. Evaluation of ICT related solutions. Use of a range of applications software (covering the processing of text, images, numbers and sound), hardware & communication technologies to address several different types of problem.</p>	<p>An ICT system & its components. Data & information. People & ICT systems. Transfer of data in ICT systems. Safety & security of data in ICT systems. Backup & recovery. What ICT can provide. Factors affecting the use of ICT. The consequences of the use of ICT.</p>
	Assessment	<p>1.5 hour examination paper, plus students take sample work (10 to 20 pages) into the examination that provides evidence of identifying a problem and of testing a solution to a problem.</p>	<p>1.5 hour examination paper.</p>
		<p>Available January & June.</p>	<p>Available January & June.</p>
		<p>50% of the total AS marks. 25% of the total A level marks.</p>	<p>50% of the total AS marks. 25% of the total A level marks.</p>
		<p>Section A, short answer questions & Section B, structured questions. The practical work is submitted with the examination paper. Students will be questioned about what they have done & their understanding of the processes they have completed.</p>	<p>Section A, short answer questions & Section B, structured questions.</p>

		AQA	
		Unit 3 (INFO3): The Use of ICT in the Digital World	Unit 4(INFO4): Coursework - Practical Issues Involved in the Use of ICT in the Digital World
A2 Units	Content	Future developments. Information and systems. Managing ICT. ICT strategy. ICT policies. Legislation. Developing ICT solutions. Development methods. Techniques and tools for systems development. Introducing large ICT systems into organisations. Training and supporting users. External and internal resources.	Background and investigation. Analysis and deliverables. Design and planning for implementation. Testing and documentation of the implementation. Evaluation of the implemented solution.
	Assessment	2 hour examination paper.	Coursework.
		Available January & June.	Available January & June.
		Section A, structured questions based on pre-release material. Section B, questions requiring extended answers.	Students are required to complete a project involving the production of an ICT related system over an extended period of time. Coursework project report marked by the centre and moderated by AQA.

		CCEA	
		Unit AS 1: Components of ICT	Unit AS 2: Developing ICT Solutions
AS Units	Content	Data & information. Hardware and software components. Network communication. Applications of ICT. Developing ICT applications.	Data Processing: Data types & formats. Creating formulae & using functions. Creating & using queries. Data checking. Forms. Reports. Multimedia: Creating pages & layouts. Using links. Creating media & collecting assets. Using media. Providing interaction & feedback. Designing for accessibility.
	Assessment	2 hour examination paper.	Coursework
		Available January & Summer.	Available Summer only.
		50% of the total AS marks. 25% of the total A level marks.	50% of the total AS marks. 25% of the total A level marks.
-	Internal assessment of a data processing task and a multimedia task.		

		CCEA	
		Unit A2 1: Information Systems	Unit A2 2: Approaches to Systems Development
A2 Units	Content	Database systems. Networked systems. Software development. The user interface. User support & training. Legal & professional issues. Implications of information systems.	Analysis. Design. Implementation & testing. Documentation. Evaluation.
	Assessment	2 hour examination paper.	Coursework.
		Available January & Summer.	Available Summer only.
		25% of the total A level marks.	25% of the total A level marks.
		-	Coursework project marked by the centre and moderated by CCEA.

		OCR	
		Unit G061: Information, Systems & Applications	Unit G062: Structured ICT Tasks
AS Units	Content	<p>Data, information, knowledge & processing. Software & hardware components of an information system. Characteristics of standard applications software & application areas. Spreadsheet concepts. Relational database concepts. Applications software used for presentation & communication of data. The role & impact of ICT- legal, moral & social issues.</p>	<p>Design. Software development.</p> <p>Testing. Documentation.</p>
	Assessment	2 hour examination paper.	Coursework.
		Available January & June.	Available in June only.
		60% of the total AS marks. 30% of the total A level marks.	40% of the total AS marks. 20% of the total A level marks.
		The examination paper has one section with both short & long answer questions. All questions to be answered.	Structured tasks set by OCR covering practical aspects of ICT. Each task may address up to 3 of the 4 skills listed above. Students work marked by the centre & moderated by OCR.

		OCR	
		Unit G063: ICT Systems, Applications & Implications	Unit G064: ICT Project
A2 Units	Content	<p>The systems cycle. Designing computer based information systems. Networks & communications. Applications of ICT. Implementing computer based information systems. Implications of ICT.</p>	<p>Definition, investigation & analysis. Design. Software development, testing & installation. Documentation. Evaluation.</p>
	Assessment	2 hour examination paper.	Coursework.
		Available January & June.	Available January & June.
		30% of the total A level marks.	20% of the total A level marks.
		<p>The examination paper has two sections with both short & long answer questions. All questions to be answered.</p>	<p>A substantial project requiring analysis and design over an extended period of time, the project is conducted in parallel with Unit G063. The project allows candidates to demonstrate their skills in analysing a problem, designing a solution, developing a software solution, testing, documenting and evaluating. Marked by the centre & moderated by OCR.</p>

		WJEC	
		Unit IT1: Information Systems	Unit IT2: Presenting Information
AS Units	Content	<p>Section A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data, information & knowledge. The value & importance of information. Quality of information. Validation & verification. Capabilities & limitation of ICT. Uses of ICT in business, education, health care & at home. Presenting information. Networks. Human computer interface. Social issues. Database systems. <p>Section B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling 	<p>DTP task.</p> <p>Automated documents task.</p> <p>Presentation task.</p>
	Assessment	2 hour 15 minute examination paper.	Coursework.
		Available in January & June.	Available in June only.
		60% of the total AS marks. 30% of the total A level marks.	40% of the total AS marks. 20% of the total A level marks.
		Sections A & B. All questions to be answered. Students prepare a spreadsheet on a topic set by WJEC. Hard copies of the spreadsheet are taken into the examination and used to answer questions in Section B. The spreadsheet is submitted with the completed examination paper.	Marked by the centre & moderated by WJEC.

		WJEC	
		Unit IT3: Use & Impact of ICT	Unit IT4: Relational Database Project
A2 Units	Content	<p>Networks. The Internet. Human computer interface. Working with ICT. ICT security policies. Database systems. Management of change. Management information systems. System development life cycle.</p>	<p>User requirements. Design specification. Implementation. User documentation. Evaluation. Project planning.</p>
	Assessment	2 hour 30 minute examination paper.	Coursework.
		Available in January & June	Available in June only.
		30% of the total A level marks.	20% of the total A level marks.
		<p>Sections A & B presented as a question paper requiring answers to be written in a separate booklet. Candidates answer all the questions in Section A and one question from a choice of 2 in section B.</p>	<p>ICT hardware & relational database software used to solve a realistic problem. Students are required to produce a set of user requirements, develop a design specification, implement and test the database, produce user documentation and show evidence of managing their work effectively.</p> <p>The project should take about 50 hours of supervised time. Marked by the centre and moderated by WJEC.</p>